

Decision _____

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Application of Golden State Water Company, on Behalf of its Bear Valley Electric Service Division (U913E), for Approval of Costs and Authority to Increase General Rates and Other Charges for Electric Service by Its Bear Valley Electric Service Division.

Application 12-02-013
(Filed February 16, 2012)

ORDER EXTENDING STATUTORY DEADLINE**Summary**

This decision extends the statutory deadline in this proceeding to January 5, 2015.

Background

Public Utilities (Pub. Util.) Code Section 1701.5 provides that ratesetting proceedings shall be resolved within 18 months of the date the scoping memo is issued, unless the scoping memo sets a later date. The Commission may also, upon making a written determination that the deadline cannot be met, including findings as to the reason, issue an order extending the deadline for up to 60 days. Decision 14-08-049 issued on August 28, 2014, extended the statutory deadline of this proceeding to November 6, 2014.

On May 7, 2014, Golden State Water Company (GSWC), on behalf of its Bear Valley Electric Service Division (BVES), filed motions for approval of two settlement agreements in the current proceeding. One settlement is an all-party

settlement that addresses all outstanding issues other than cost allocation among customer classes and rate design principles for residential customers; while the other is a settlement regarding cost allocation among customer classes and rate design principles for residential customers that does not include the Office of Ratepayer Advocates.

The assigned Administrative Law Judge's (ALJ) proposed decision was issued on September 2, 2014, for public review and comments. The proposed decision was Item 5 on October 16, 2014 Agenda and it was held to the November 6, 2014 Agenda. In order to provide the Commission sufficient time to deliberate and to issue its final decision, we extend the statutory deadline of Application 12-02-013 for 60 days, from November 6, 2014 to January 5, 2015.

Waiver of Comment Period

Under Rule 14.6(c)(4), the Commission may reduce or waive the period for public review and comment of decisions extending the deadline for resolving issues raised in the scoping memo of a ratesetting proceeding. We waive the period for public review and comment pursuant to this rule.

Assignment of Proceeding

Catherine J.K. Sandoval is the assigned Commissioner and Seaneen M. Wilson is the assigned ALJ.

Findings of Fact

1. The statutory deadline for resolving this ratesetting proceeding is November 6, 2014.
2. On May 7, 2014, GSWC/BVES filed motions for approval of two settlement agreements in the current proceeding.
3. One settlement is an all-party settlement that addresses all outstanding issues other than cost allocation among customer classes and rate design

principles for residential customers; while the other is a settlement regarding cost allocation among customer classes and rate design principles for residential customers that does not include the Office of Ratepayer Advocates.

4. The assigned ALJ's proposed decision was issued on September 2, 2014, for public review and comments.

5. The proposed decision was Item 5 on October 16, 2014 Agenda and it was held to the November 6, 2014 Agenda.

6. A 60-day extension of the statutory deadline is necessary to provide the Commission sufficient time to deliberate and to issue its final decision.

Conclusions of Law

1. The statutory deadline imposed by Pub. Util. Code § 1701.5(a) should be extended by 60 days.

2. In accordance with Rule 14.6(c)(4), the comment period is waived.

IT IS ORDERED that the statutory deadline for resolving this proceeding is extended to January 5, 2015.

This order is effective today.

Dated _____, at Bakersfield, California.